of tenure, is permissible only to the Chief Executive of Public Enterprises and that too based on their performance;

(d) if so, whether the above-said guidelines of Government have been adhered to in the ITDC.; and

(e) if not, whether Government would fix responsibility and take action against the officials who flouted the Government's rules?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The requisite information is given in the Annexpre (c) to (e) (*see* Appendix CLXIV, Annexpre No. 44). The tenure of executive appointments in ITDC coming under the purview of Government can be extended or curtailed based on their performance/exigencies of work. This is being followed by ITDC in the matter of appointments of Consultants in the Corporation.

Taking over of Surat Airport by Central Government

2695. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:
SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received any proposal to take over Surat Airport in Gujarat from the State Government;

(b) if so, from whom the proposal was received;

(c) whether it is a fact that the NAA is going to take over Surat Airport from the State Government, if so by when; and

(d) by when is it proposed to start Indian Airlines services from Surat Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) In January 1991, the requests were received from the Chief Secretary and Chief Minister of Gujarat for Surat airport to be taken over by the National Airports Authority for upgradation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since the existing runway is not suitable for Boeing-737 operations, Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce air services to Surat.

Aircraft operated by Vayudoot

2696. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to replace ageing old aircraft in Indian Airlines;

(b) what are the present prevailing costs of a new A-300 Airbus, A-320 Airbus and 737 Boeings;

(c) how many aircraft are being operated at present by Vayudoot; and

(d) what are the airports which are at present linked by Vayudoot services?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Indian Airlines has prepared a long-term perspective plan which, among other things, envisages phasing out of old aircrafts.

(b) Prices vary depending not only upon the class of the aircraft but also a variety of other factors including the manner of procurement that is whether on outright purchase or lease or lease cum-purchase.

(c) Vayudoot has a fleet of 8 HS-748, 8 Dornier 228 and 1 F-27 aircraft of which 6 HS-748, 5 Dornier 228 and 1 F-27 aircraft are operational at present.

(d) Information is given in the statement enclosed.